# How to support Tribes throughout the Entire Grant Lifecycle

## Pre-Award

# Discussion Topics – Pre Award Obstacles

•Lack of training and technical assistance on grants processes and grants preparation skills

•Insufficient time between grant announcements and due dates.

•Lack of annual or multi-year program announcements, with multiple due dates.

•FOA Content

•Grants.gov Application and Submission

•CCR Requirement/Annual Renewal

•Accessibility to HHS grant program contacts

# Information Sharing

**Best Practices to Support Tribes in Overcoming Obstacles**

- Examples of effective use of a dedicated Training & Technical Assistance (T&TA) Provider (Regional Contracts/Grants)

- Examples of the effective use of follow-up T&TA delivery that applies the use of 'Lessons Learned'

- Examples of effective use of the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

- Examples of the effective use of technology including Grants.gov and CCR/DUNS

# Technical Obstacles

- **GRANTS.GOV**

  - Access

  - Capacity - Measures taken since 2008/2009 to address server capacity during high volume peek periods of application submission.

- **CCR/DUNS**
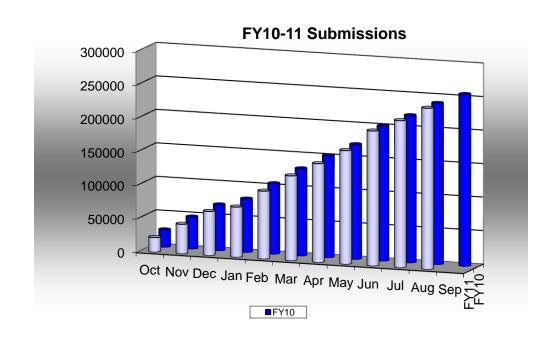
  - Registration

  - Updating Information

# Technical Obstacles Overcome

Increased and Sustainable Submission Volumes to Grants.gov

Continued hardware and system enhancements since 2009 have allowed for increased system stability and capability to handle large volumes of submissions
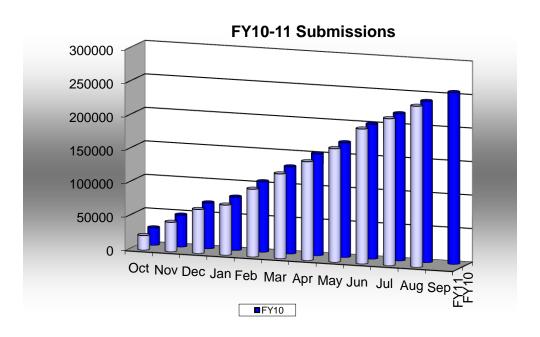


FY10-11 Submissions

# Technical Obstacles Overcome

Increased and Sustainable Submission Volumes to Grants.gov

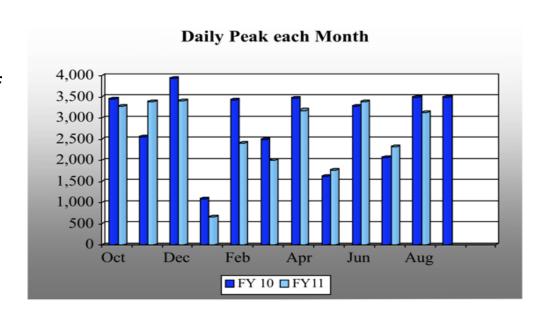Throughout FY11, Grants.gov received over 250,000 grant application submissions

**FY10-11 Submissions**

# Technical Obstacles Overcome

Regular Daily Volume of Application Submissions to Grants.gov FY10/FY11

Grants.gov is capable of handling thousands of submissions per day on behalf of all Federal agencies with occasional peaks of over 3,000 in one day



**Daily Peak each Month**

FY 10  FY11

# Technical Obstacles Overcome

Outreach and Communication Activities

- **Over 40 Presentations for FY11 (Oct − Sept) conducted for applicant communities**
  - **Congressional Districts, Associations, Conferences**
  - **Educated over 2,000 participants over FY11**

- **CDs and pamphlets available from Grants.gov for distribution to applicants on registration and how to complete and submit applications**

- **Grants.gov Quarterly Stakeholder Webcasts for Applicants**
  - **July 2011 webcast on Grant Fraud**

- **Grants.gov Help Desk Available 24/7**

- **Grants.gov Self-Help iPortal with most frequently asked questions**

- **https://grants-portal.psc.gov/**

# Best Practices for Pre-Award T&TA
# FOA Examples

• Establish a specific .gov email address to be published in the FOA which would handle applicant questions.

• Publish FAQs in the FOA.

• Include footnotes when possible in the FOA.

• Clearly state all funding preferences and statutory requirements.

• Provide glossary of definitions.

# Best Practices for Pre-Award T&TA
# Dedicated T&TA Regional Provider

- Use of Regional Contracts to 8A Native owned companies to provide a variety of Technical Assistance to applicants.

- Issuance of grant awards to Tribes to provide a variety of TA to applicants.

# Best Practices for Pre-Award T&TA
# Effective Use of Technology

- Share FOAs -Provide links on websites or in monthly email bulletins to other funding sources for Tribes across ACF and DHHS

- Use of webinars, monthly email bulletins to disseminate T&TA information and materials.

# Best Practices for Pre-Award T&TA Follow-Up : Lessons Learned

•Detailed 'debrief' of summary of panel comments for unsuccessful applicants.

•Apply 'Lessons Learned' from grantee performance assessment tools (i.e. Impact or Site Monitoring Visits/Reports) to the delivery of fine-tuned T&TA for community-based project design.